

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

**Page 1:** After the title, insert:

--This is a 371 national phase application of PCT/JP2003/013577 filed 23 October 2003, claiming priority to Japanese Application No. 2002-309970 filed 24 October 2002, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.--

**Page 2:** Replace the paragraph starting on page 2, line 25 to page 3, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

On the other hand, a solution of a rigid polymer at a high concentration tends to form a liquid crystal phase showing an optical anisotropy. Since such a rigid polymer solution tends to undergo an orientation of molecular chains in the direction of flowing, it takes a long time until the direction of the molecular chain, once aligned, becomes random. Accordingly, the film forming method described above gives a substantial difference in the dynamic characteristics between the direction in which the polymer solution is extruded and extended and the direction vertical thereto, which should be improved. Nevertheless, as described in Chapter 3 in Application of High Temperature Polymers, ed. by Robert R. Luise, CRC Press, 1997, the molecules are aligned in an extruding direction and a draw-down direction, and thus give a problematic film which is readily torn apart when being pulled in the lateral direction. Accordingly, USP ~~2898924~~ 4898924 employed a technology for producing a thin film by means of a biaxial orientation using a blow molding method, and USP 4939235 attempted to improve the anisotropy of the dynamic characteristics by means of an orientation in different directions between the both sides of a film.

**Page 13:** Replace the first paragraph after “(Chemical Formula 4)” with the following amended paragraph:

While such a polybenzazole may be a homopolymer having a repeating unit described above, it may be a random, alternating or block copolymer having a

combination of the structure units listed above, such as those described in USP 4703103, USP 4533692, USP 4533724, USP 4533693, USP ~~4539567~~ 4359567, USP 4578432 and the like.

**Page 48:** Replace Table A1 with the following amended Table A1:

Table A1

	Example A1	Comparative Example A2
Film forming method	Counter rolls <del>PET film support</del> <u>Porous polypropylene</u> <u>film support-</u>	Counter rolls <del>Porous polypropylene</del> <del>film support</del> <u>PET film support</u>
Surface roughness (m)	0.08	0.30
Interlaminar peeling MD/TD	Absent/Absent	Absent/Present
Tensile elasticity MD/TD (kg/mm <sup>2</sup> )	980/950	580/540
Elasticity retention MD direction (%)		
300C/30C	82	80
400C/30C	75	72

**Page 50:** Replace the paragraph starting on line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

(Comparative Example A3)

As Comparative Example A3, a commercially available "Nafion ®" 112 (trade name) manufactured by DuPont was employed. This film is a proton exchange membrane made from a perfluorocarbon sulfonic acid polymer similarly to the "Nafion®" polymer contained in a 20% solution of "Nafion®" ~~employed in Example A1 and a 10% solution of "Nafion®"~~ employed in Example A2, and employed widely as a proton exchange membrane for a solid polymeric fuel cell.